REMARKS

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-3 and 5-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious over Hirao et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,442,749) in view of Humpleman et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,546,419) and in further view of Purple (U.S. Patent No. 6,252,587). The Applicant has amended independent claim 1 more specifically to define the instant invention over the prior art references cited by the Examiner to reject the claimed method.

The Applicant has amended independent claim 1 to include the limitation of compiling the generated source code into a binary form and to further specify that the reference to the name component and the contents component of the data record is a **memory** reference that operates as parameters to allow a programming interface to select the name component and the contents component from the binary data record layout in response to a data request. Such limitations are not disclosed nor taught by the prior art cited by the Examiner.

Hirao et al. discloses a method of transferring data or files stored in a computer readable medium between two software components that utilizes a "wrapper" to encapsulate a proprietary data format and provide a universal interface. The method of Hirao et al. requires that some form of data or document from a wrapped application be stored in a persistent medium for access by an external application.

Purple discloses a method for accessing data stored in legacy data formats by generating code to read the legacy data based upon the format of the structure and characteristics of the data residing, again, on or in a persistent medium. The method of Purple is only concerned with accessing data stored in a persistent medium accessed

and acted upon by a legacy application and does not contemplate access to the logic rules of the legacy application itself, as does the present invention.

A significant distinction between the applicant's invention as now claimed, and the combination of Hirao et al., Humpleman et al, and Purple, is that such combination fails to disclose or teach a method that takes a snapshot of the in-memory binary data as it exists in the architecture-specific environment as it is being processed. As discussed in U.S. Patent No. 6,209,124 (from which the instant application is a continuation-in-part), taking a snapshot, neither of the screen, nor of a data file or other document, but of the in-memory, real time image of the data, operates at the code level and, hence, is highly efficient and highly scaleable. The in-memory snap shot of real time data allows the logic rules of a legacy application to be utilized without requiring such data to be stored in a retrievable format as required by the prior art.
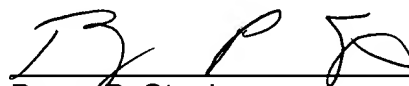
The generation and compilation of source code in the instant claimed invention provides a significant advantage over the Applicant's prior invention disclosed in U.S Patent No. 6,209,124, which functions in a non-compiled, interpretive manner. By generating and compiling source code, the instant invention permits operation with much greater overall efficiency as a system employing the instant invention is repeatedly used. Interpreted applications take source code in human readable form and convert the commands thereof into machine-readable form in real time as the interpreted program is operating. Compiled programs, by contrast, are converted into machine-readable object code in advance so that, during execution, the translation step required in interpreted programs is skipped, resulting in much faster operation. The novelty of the present invention is that the legacy data, as acted upon by the architecture-specific computer program, is converted, in real time, and then used in an

external, object oriented program in compiled form. As the legacy system is repeatedly used with the invention of the present system, more and more of the automatically-generated source code is compiled. This is because, in the present invention, if the object generated already exists in compiled form, the system embodying the present invention executes the compiled code. If it does not exist, it is compiled automatically and then executed. Initially, a system employing the instant invention might actually run slower than would a system employing Applicant's prior invention. This is because the dynamic compilation of code takes longer than merely interpreting it. Over time, however, as more and more of the functionality of the legacy system has been called upon and executed by a system employing the instant invention there will be fewer and fewer occasions when this compilation step is required.

For the reasons set forth above, the Applicant believes claim 1 now contains allowable subject matter. The Applicant believes claims 2-8 to be allowable as being dependent upon independent claim 1.

Reconsideration of the application as amended respectfully is requested. The foregoing amendment and remarks are believed to be responsive to every matter raised in the office action. If, however, some matter has been overlooked, an opportunity to correct the oversight would be appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

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